



**Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**TUCSON MAN INDICTED FOR ILLEGALLY
TRAFFICKING 211 FIREARMS**

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Paul K. Charlton, U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona, and Lester D. Martz, Special Agent in Charge for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced that on July 20, 2005, a federal grand jury in Tucson returned a 24-count indictment against Paul F. Stine, 57, of Tucson, Ariz.

The indictment alleges that between October 30, 2001 and May 16, 2004, the defendant knowingly made false and fictitious statements to deceive licensed federal firearms dealers by stating that he was the actual buyer of the firearms listed on the required transaction records for 211 firearms, when in fact, the purchase money was supplied by, and the firearms were given to, a third party. In addition, the indictment alleges that over this same period of time Stine illegally exported from the United States to Mexico approximately 139 AK-47 type firearms without authorization from the U.S. State Department. A federal warrant has been issued for Stine's arrest.

The federal indictment charges Paul F. Stine with violating Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 922 (a)(6) and Title 22, U.S. Code, Section 2778 (b)(2) and (c) and Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations Sections 121.1, 121.4, 123.1, 127.1(a), 127.1(c), and 127.3.

A conviction for each of these crimes carries a maximum penalty of ten years in prison, a fine ranging from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 or both. In determining an actual sentence, the assigned judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Tucson Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The prosecution is being handled by David P. Petermann, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR05-1417 TUC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2005-136

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